

OWING to the crowded state of our editorial page, the convention calls will be found on the first page.

MR. BELTON pays his respect to "No. 1" this week, who now has the floor for reply. It is hoped the controversy will be kept up until the people thoroughly understand the situation of county affairs.

THE communication in THE TRIBUNE last week relative to county affairs should have been signed "Number One." This error was the result of the combined effort of the intelligent compositor and the intelligent proof reader.

DOES Senator Van Wyck ask a re-election at the hands of the Republican party because he is a Republican? Does he ask a re-election because he has been true to the Republican party and voted with the party on all test questions in the Senate? No, he makes no pretensions to being a Republican, and asks to be re-elected because he has played the part of a demagogue. The Republican State of Nebraska is going to send to the senate a straight Republican, and "don't you forget it."

UNDER the law passed at the last session of the legislature we are to elect a county attorney at the approaching election. As he will be the prosecutor in criminal cases before the district court, it is important that he should be a man of experience, and especially in criminal law. There are several lawyers in the county possessing the necessary qualifications, but they do not care to accept the position as it would almost destroy their other practice before the court. Among those whose names have been suggested are J. S. Hoagland and J. W. Bixler. We do not know that either will consent to be a candidate, but they are both well qualified. Mr. Nesbitt has also been urged to be a candidate, but he already has one county office and objects to taking the whole earth. By the time the conventions meet it is hoped some good man will be prepared to accept the nomination.

DURING the past winter and summer there has been considerable said by the enemies of Mr. Eells relative to that gentleman's conduct of the county treasury. At one time it was figured by the commissioners that he was ten or twelve thousand dollars short—or rather he owed the county that much on account of taxes not collected. Then it was reduced several thousand dollars. And now it seems that the head and front of his offending consists in redeeming a couple thousand dollars in warrants, and stopping the interest on the same, using money belonging to other funds then lying idle in the treasury. In this transaction the county was really the gainer by saving interest. An had it not been for the extraordinary and some unforeseen expenses of the county, there would have been no difficulty in reimbursing the funds before the money would have been drawn on. Knowing that this was the size of the offense, instead of answering his traducers Mr. Eells probably preferred to wait, expecting they would finally tell the truth.

ATTEND THE PRIMARIES.

EDS. TRIBUNE.—Your article in last week's TRIBUNE urging voters to attend the primaries is a point well taken, and I earnestly second the proposition. In this year of grace when assistant Democrats are stalking through the land disguised in the garb of mugwumps and reformers, it not only behooves every true Republican to be on guard at the primaries but to attend the polls and administer a rebuke to the demagogues that will remind them that the spirit of Lincoln, of Stanton and of Grant is still extant, by rolling up a majority that will only be an admonition of what is to follow in '88. Put only true men in office; we want no traitors in the camp, and when the line of battle is formed we will surely march to victory. Republicans do your duty.

OLD SOLDIER.

THE EDITORIAL EXCURSION. The excursion of Nebraska publishers and journalists to the Pacific coast and intermediate points, under the auspices of the State Press Association, was instructive and enjoyable in spite of the heat and dust of mid-summer. As is usual on such expeditions, there were a variety of occupations represented, but there was probably a larger percentage of bona fide newspaper men than ordinarily grace such excursions with their presence.

Starting from Omaha on the 5th, the expedition proceeded on the Union Pacific road direct to Park City, Utah, where is located the celebrated Ontario mine, one of the great mines of the rich mining belt of Utah. Several millions of dollars have been invested in mills and machinery and the output is sufficient to pay fair dividends to the operating expenses. The boldness characteristic of the mining men when danger is not with a few exceptions the perpetration of crimes into the

bowels of the earth and inspected the mazy labyrinths of the mine. The machinery operating the elevators and pumping the water from this great depth is of the finest workmanship and stupendous power, the fly-wheel for the pumping engines being forty-five feet in diameter. One wonders how such heavy machinery was moved up the canyon and placed in position, the altitude being about 8,000 feet. Spending the night in this busy mining camp (its quite a city, claiming 2,000 inhabitants), the excursionists arrived at Ogden in time to attend church on a hot Sabbath morning, a privilege embraced by nearly all the religious members of the party, including the writer and his better half, of course. The Mormons held their services in the afternoon, at which meeting our party was well represented.

A ride across the deserts of Utah and Nevada in the hot summer time is anything but enjoyable. Reversing the order of making up trains east of the Rockies, the Central Pacific places the Pullmans as near the engine as possible, leaving the second-class and emigrants to enjoy the cloud of dust that almost constantly envelopes the rear. To read the guide books one would think he was going to pass through a beautiful land, but, gentle reader, dismiss any such vain impressions from your vivid imagination. An occasional oasis is a grand relief to the sage brush plains and hills. Down the Humboldt there is some improvement, but this is only a narrow valley. We gave our imagination full play, cut it loose to roam at will through nature's vast domains, but could see none of the eloquence pictured by the poet, neither white-tailed antelope, foxes, bird or chick:

"Go ye and look upon that land,
That far, vast land that few behold,
And none beholding, understand;
That old, old land, which men call new,
That land as old as time is old.

Go journey with the seasons through
Its wastes, and learn how limitless,
How shoreless lie the distances,
Before you come to question this,
Or dare to dream what grandeur is.

The solemn silence of that plain,
Where unmann'd tempests ride or reign,
It awes and possesses you,
'Tis, oh, so eloquent.

* * * * *
Some white-tailed antelope flow by,
So fairy-like; some foxes, shy
And shadow-like, shoot to and fro.
Like weavers' shuttles, as you pass—
And now and then from out the grass,
You hear some lone bird chick and call
A sharp keen call for her lost brood,
That only make the solitude,
That mingles like some sombre pall,
Seem deeper still, and that is all."

Just before dark we passed the "sink of the Humboldt," about which, in boyhood days, we heard so much from returned Californians. The river, which is about the same size throughout its length, here disappears into the sands of the plain, as do also the waters of the Carson and numerous other streams flowing from the eastward slopes of the Sierras. Theorists generally conclude that this water is evaporated into the atmosphere, but I am inclined to think that large portions of it finds its way through subterranean passages to the slopes of the Pacific and is the source of numerous springs, streams and artesian wells on that coast, the elevation being about 4,000 feet above sea level.

Unfortunately for tourists the train crosses the mountains both going and coming in the night and we missed seeing the far-famed scenery of the Sierra Nevada. In the early morning we found ourselves in the balmy, pine-laden atmosphere of the western foothills, rapidly descending to Sacramento. Breakfasting in the latter place, before noon we were comfortably located in the Palace hotel, San Francisco.

A description of this busy city would occupy pages suffice it to say that after visiting the principal points of interest in and about the city and taking a ride out through the Golden Gate into the Pacific ocean, through the kindness of Gen. Howard who placed the government steam yacht at our disposal for that purpose, the party at the end of a week commenced its homeward journey, stopping a half day in Sacramento, where they were entertained by the Pioneer's club and city officers. Nebraska is a high license state and many of its citizens are even prohibitionists; but human nature is weak and wine is winning. Touch not, taste not at home, but when you are in Rome do as the Romans do, seemed to be the motto on this occasion.

I might add parenthetically, that had not the writer been detained from attending this banquet, perhaps he would not be so keen to "give the boys away." After the banquet our excursionists were conveyed in carriages to principal points of interest in the city. The editors of Nebraska will long remember the warm hospitality and generous treatment shown them by the people of Sacramento. As the train moved out of the depot, three times three were given with a will in honor of the 43ers and the city.

About thirty-five years ago in the then western states it was customary to call the eighth part of a dollar a "bit"—two bits, four bits, six bits being common expressions. For some reason the classical word disappeared from the vernacular, but I never knew where it went. I

know now: The early emigrants carried it to California where it flourishes in all its poetical beauty. Inquire the price of an article, its a certain number of "bits." I heard an auctioneer selling some land. He had received a bid of seven dollars and "three eighths" as he called it, and urgently asked for "four-eighths." Such a thing as half a dollar is unknown in the Golden State.

A run of forty hours brought us to Salt Lake, on the 18th.

We were met at Ogden by a deputization of Mormons, among them the mayor, police judge, several aldermen, in fact nearly the whole city government of Salt Lake City and one of the twelve apostles. They were very pleasant and sociable, apparently quite anxious that we should see things as they saw them.

In a business point of view Salt Lake City is very dull. There is no building or improvements in progress that I could note. The cause of this stagnation is the irrepressible conflict between American and Mormon institutions. The Mormons yield obedience to United States laws at the point of the bayonet, but they are as much a foreign people as the Mexicans or the inhabitants of any foreign power. They acknowledge only one sovereign—the church; and the head of the church is the autocrat whose edicts are law unto the faithful. They yield to no other power except through force. It is this one-man power more than polygamy the gentiles are contending against. Plural marriage, although being secretly consummated even now to a limited extent, is gradually dying out and perhaps in twenty-five years will be a thing of the past; but Mormonism grows stronger and is spreading into the surrounding territories and there is some danger that it will even obtain ascendancy in the state of Nevada. The gentiles constitute about one-fifth of the population of Salt Lake City and they pay two-fifths of the taxes. They own the mining property, all but one of the banks, the hotels and most of the stores, but they have no voice in the government of the city or territory. They are treated like aliens. Socially they constitute one class, the Mormons another; there is no mingling. Every social gathering is all saint or all gentile. As I said there is an irrepressible conflict existing between the principles of these two classes. What the outcome will be depends upon the laws enacted by congress. Every gentile resident of the territory is in favor of a radical change. They believe that the only way the territory can be governed in harmony with American institutions is to repeal all territorial laws disfranchise every elector, and govern the territory through a commission similar to that in operation in the District of Columbia. This would destroy the government by the church, open the country to immigration and the development of its vast agricultural and mineral resources.

After spending two days viewing the sights in and about Salt Lake City, the excursionists took the Denver and Rio Grande narrow gauge road for Denver, stopping one day at Manitou, visiting the Garden of the Gods, cave of the winds, Ute pass, and other points of interest in the vicinity of this Saratoga of Colorado. None of the party I believe attempted to ascend Pike's Peak, only twelve miles distant to the summit, which was in plain view, even the signal station being visible with the naked eye. Arriving in Denver Sunday evening the 22d, most of the party made a trip up Clear Creek as far as Silver Plume, to view the wonders of that famous canyon. On Tuesday evening, after nearly three weeks on the road, the excursionists boarded the B. & M. for their Nebraska homes, the writer however preferring to take the U. P. direct home.

In this connection it is not out of place to refer to the various roads over which we traveled. The Central Pacific, having the "dead open and shut" on the U. P. and D. & R. G. business, evidently takes things very leisurely, there being no great effort to make fast time or even to keep up to schedule time. This is a matter of considerable grumbling among the train men of the D. & R. G., as that road is unable to make up lost time. The U. P. folks can gain three or four hours from Ogden to North Platte, however, without any trouble and are always on time. The Central Pacific eating house system is inferior. Their cars of course are equal to any.

The Denver and Rio Grande is the "scenic route," and in making the transcontinental trip the tourist should if possible return that way. The description of the passage over the mountains at Marshall Pass, where the road attains an altitude of nearly eleven thousand feet do not approach the reality. The work must be seen to be understood. Then there is the passage through Gunnison country, with its numerous mountains, buttes, and canyons, all overtopped by the majestic Royal Gorge of the Arkansas. The grades are of necessity very steep, frequently requiring two engines and sometimes three to haul the train. The little moguls "hump themselves" to keep up to schedule time, and they "get there" if the C. P. gives them a fair start.

But of all the roads west of the Missouri river, the Union Pacific is the best equipped and most carefully managed. Considering the heavy trains they are obliged to haul, the time is very fast and there is none lost by unnecessary delays. The track and road bed is in such excellent shape that the motion of the Pullman is scarcely perceptible. The U. P. eating houses are generally classed as a monopoly, which is probably a fact; but they serve the traveling public well. You will get a better meal, better cooked and a greater variety of dishes, at these hotels for seventy-five cents than you can get in San Francisco for "sixteen bits." The traveler and tourist will feel perfectly at home on the Union Pacific.

R. & S.

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In order to introduce here the celebrated

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for which we are sole agents in this section, we will, for the next week beginning Monday morning and ending Friday night, give with each shirt an Earl & Wilson Collar. Our prices on these shirts are—

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Remember the offer is for one week only, as we wish to introduce the shirt here.

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the best equipped and most carefully managed. Considering the heavy trains they are obliged to haul, the time is very fast and there is none lost by unnecessary delays. The track and road bed is in such excellent shape that the motion of the Pullman is scarcely perceptible. The U. P. eating houses are generally classed as a monopoly, which is probably a fact; but they serve the traveling public well. You will get a better meal, better cooked and a greater variety of dishes, at these hotels for seventy-five cents than you can get in San Francisco for "sixteen bits." The traveler and tourist will feel perfectly at home on the Union Pacific.

L. A. S.

COUNTY AFFAIRS.

EDITORS TRIBUNE:

I deem it necessary to notice the article signed "No One," as he lays down the law to the commissioners as follows:

If our commissioners did not persistently violate the law in issuing warrants there would be no such item as overdrafts appear in the county treasurer's office.

He goes on to say that the law limits to 75 per cent, etc. It was the limit in 1881, but the law of 1883 limits to 85 per cent until there is more than that amount collected when warrants are again drawn till all the money is drawn out. The commissioners are posted; all of them are responsible and they take no risks.

Now for the edification of "No One" and his circle of admirers, I will demonstrate how overdrafts are brought about and their evil influence. In the first place I will say it is a misnomer: there can be no more credits on a fund than debts. Every fund must stand alone; it is a term invented to beguile the ignorant. The term has permeated the treasurer's books from times' time, who went out of office with \$2,307 overdraft, till the late treasurer who went out of office with an overdraft of \$2,387.44. Stated plainly, it is, the late treasurer turned into the commissioners \$2,387.44 more general fund warrants than he could possibly by the collections of the general fund, to-wit: collections, \$3,492.27; total credits, \$5,849.71; too many warrants, \$2,387.44. The commissioners gave him credit for the warrants, but they are plain matter of fact men and not posted in the moon-raking style of book-keeping.

The treasurer certified that there was \$4,848.87 in the balance of the county funds. The commissioners examined the books and found it the correct amount; but it appears that when the funds were turned over to the present treasurer they were apparently short \$2,387.44, which are supposed to be long by overdraft. The statement published by our present treasurer shows that he charges himself up with the full balances. Now if he were to be charged up with the full

amount certified to he would be \$2,387.44 out of pocket. It appears that the way our treasurer's certificates should read, I hereby certify that there is so much money in the various funds but you know they are all short. Every fund should be as certified without regard to other funds.

County business should be conducted on the same principle as private business—charge a man with all he receives and credit him with all he accounts for.

Now for the evil influence. The present treasurer would have to collect \$2,387.44 in the general fund and distribute it among the other funds to make them equal to what he certifies they are. He is collecting the tax of 1885, consequently there will be that amount of 1885 warrants that cannot be paid. Such a system of doing business would injure the credit of the county and compel people to sell their warrants at a fearful discount, for there is no certainty that they will ever be paid. One large buyer of warrants began by discounting five per cent, but when he got posted on the moon-raking system of our treasury of overdrafts he dropped to ten per cent discount. Well, there is no use of more words, for overdraft died and was buried on the 8th of January, 1888.

Now as for "No One." It is to be regretted that he did not sign his name in full so that we might know to whom we are indebted for the wise remarks, for every time I see a poor fellow rolling in the gutter, a fellow execution proof, a constitutional liar or a horse thief, it will come into my mind that he may be "No One." I will never suspect a respectable man. I would advise you to change to "No Body."

JAMES BELTON.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

Land Office at North Platte, Neb., August 24th, 1896.
Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim and that said proof will be made before the Register and Receiver of the U. S. Land Office at North Platte, Neb., on October 12th, 1896, viz: Robert Stewart who filed preemption declaratory statement No. 629 for the southwest quarter section 29, township 10, range 41 west. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: William McGahan, Owen McDonald, John Manderville, and Homer Timberman, all of North Platte, Neb. Dated August 24th, 1896.

Chattel Mortgage Sale.

Notice is hereby given that by virtue of a chattel mortgage dated on the 14th day of May, 1896, executed by Arthur B. Lupton to A. D. Buckworth, and duly filed and recorded in the office of the county clerk of Lincoln county, Nebraska, on the 14th day of May, 1896, to secure the payment of the sum of one hundred and twelve dollars with interest at the rate of ten per cent per annum after the 14th day of August, 1896, default having been made in the payment of said sum, therefore I will sell the property therein described, to-wit: One gray mare about ten years old, one Caldwell wagon, one set double harness, one iron frame McCormick mowing machine, one Canton, Ohio, sickle bay rake, one iron beam stirring plow called Norwinstan, one red break line plow, and one square harrow, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the said sum of one hundred and twelve dollars, interest, costs and accruing costs, at public auction in front of the clerk's office, in the city of North Platte, Nebraska, on Saturday, October 24, 1896, at 2 o'clock p. m. of said day.
Dated August 24th, 1896.

LUKE HALEY, Sheriff of Lincoln County, Neb.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK, North Platte, - Neb.

Authorized Capital, \$200,000. Paid in Capital, \$70,000.
J. H. McCONNELL, President. JAS. SUTHERLAND, Cashier.
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LUMBER,
Lath, Shingles,
POSTS, LIME, CEMENT,
Building Paper,
IN ANY DESIRED QUANTITY.

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North Platte, - Nebraska.

Estimates Furnished.

C. C. HAWKINS.

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Hawkins & Pearse,
NEW HARNESS SHOP!
Harness, Saddlery and Trimmings.

ALL REPAIRING PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

An Inspection of our Stock Respectfully Invited.

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on short notice and at reasonable rates. Horses boarded by the week or month. Careful and competent employees. Stable opposite the Hawley House on east Fifth street.

NORTH PLATTE, - NEBRASKA.

J. Q. THACKER,
DRUGGIST.

KEITH'S BLOCK, FRONT STREET, OPPOSITE PACIFIC HOTEL.

NORTH PLATTE, - NEBRASKA.

WE AIM TO HANDLE THE BEST GRADE OF GOODS,

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